

rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 660, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1130

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR TEEN READ WEEK

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 836) expressing support for Teen Read Week.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 836

Whereas 70 percent of 8th graders and 65 percent of 12th graders do not read at grade level;

Whereas for many adolescent students, ongoing difficulties with reading and writing figure prominently into the decision to drop out of school;

Whereas available data shows 85 percent of all juvenile offenders have reading problems and approximately one-third of all juvenile offenders read below the fourth-grade level;

Whereas advanced literacy across content areas is the best available predictor of the ability of students to succeed in introductory college courses;

Whereas research shows that teens who read for fun have better test scores and are more likely to succeed in the workforce;

Whereas Teen Read Week encourages teens to read a book for leisure purposes;

Whereas Teen Read Week recognizes that it is important for adolescents to read proficiently; and

Whereas October 18 to October 24, 2009, is Teen Read Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Teen Read Week;

(2) recognizes that it is important for teens to be taught to read proficiently; and

(3) encourages teens to read for leisure and academic purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous materials on House Resolution 836 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 836, which supports the goals and ideals of Teen Read Week from October 18 through October 24, 2009.

Teen Read Week was started in 1998 by the Young Adult Library Services Association as an initiative to encourage more teens to read. Research shows that strong literacy ability is correlated to academic success, but many of our youth are struggling to read and to write at proficient levels. For instance, 70 percent of eighth graders and 65 percent of 12th graders do not read at grade level. I find that unacceptable, and I know that my colleague does as well. The inability of students to read at grade level can tremendously affect a teenager's decision to stay in school. Also, strong literacy skills help predict college success in college introductory classes.

Critical reading and comprehension help students achieve their personal and professional goals. In addition to supporting Teen Read Week, this bill calls for more adolescents to read in their free time. While teens hover around video games, wide-screen television sets and computer screens, books are collecting dust on bookshelves. It is vital that we continue to encourage students to read for both their academic and personal purposes even though there are many things that do compete for their time. Teens, parents and teachers can all play a significant role in helping children and students achieve academic success.

With that, I want to thank Representative ROE for introducing this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume, and I rise today in support of House Resolution 836, expressing support for Teen Read Week.

More than 20 percent of adults read below a fifth-grade level, which is well below the reading level needed to earn a minimum wage. Almost 44 million adults in the United States don't read well enough to read a short story to their child. It is estimated that illiteracy costs U.S. taxpayers more than \$20 billion per year. More than three out of four of those on welfare and 68 percent of people arrested are illiterate. In U.S. prisons, three out of five inmates cannot read.

The ability to read proficiently is one of the most important skills children and adolescents can acquire. This skill is important to people of all ages, from children just entering school to adults in the prime of their careers. Teen Read Week highlights the importance of encouraging teenagers to read.

Research has shown that children and teens who are proficient readers perform better in almost all school subjects. Therefore, it follows that teens who struggle to read are more likely to drop out of high school than those who do not. In addition, research

indicates that there's a strong link between teens who are juvenile offenders and the inability to read at grade level.

Teen Read Week takes place October 18 through 24, 2009. It was first recognized in 1998 and has taken place the third week of every October since that time.

Teen Read Week encourages teens to read for fun. Reading for fun highlights the importance and enjoyment of reading for teens and adolescents. Research has shown that teens who read for fun are more likely to succeed in the workforce than those who do not. The theme for Teen Read Week 2009 is "Read Beyond Reality."

By recognizing Teen Read Week, we show our support for promoting teen literacy and encouraging teens to read. I am honored to support this resolution, and I ask my colleagues to join me.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have just one comment. I have been the mayor of a city, Johnson City, Tennessee. A lot of information for the school system comes through us. And I was at a meeting one day, and one of the school board members was very exuberant about how we could use computers, and computers are the most important thing. I held my hand up, and I said, Look, I don't have a clue how a computer works, but I can read. So I read the manual, and in 30 minutes or 20 minutes' time, I'm online.

Reading changes lives. The statistics in this country are staggering. When you look at the amount of people in prisons and on welfare who cannot read, it is basically enslavement. We must in our education system—and I have thought of this many times—a good education where you can read may help solve the health care crisis, because people who can read can get a good job and provide for themselves.

So I would encourage my colleagues to support this and encourage the schools to help teach and encourage teen reading.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I know how important this is. We talk to young families about the importance of reading to their young children. But it's also important that we continue that enthusiasm in the home for their younger adults as they go through school.

Kids read to learn. There are so many places that they can go because they can read. Often it is true that young people have to read a lot of things in school, but they don't often read for their enjoyment. And until they start doing that, and they really understand what it can mean to them for the rest of their lives, they may not become the kind of readers that they probably would want to be and would benefit from.

So I'm delighted that my colleague has brought this forward. It helps us to

encourage teens to continue to read. I support House Resolution 836 and urge my colleagues to do so.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 836.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

# MORRIS K. UDALL SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1818) to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 to honor the legacy of Stewart L. Udall, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1818

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Amendments Act of 2009".

## SEC. 2. SHORT TITLE.

Section 1 of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 (20 U.S.C. 5601 note; Public Law 102-259) is amended to read as follows:

### "SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

"This Act may be cited as the 'Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act'."

## SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Section 3 of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5601) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(5) the Foundation—

"(A) since 1995, has operated exceptional scholarship, internship, and fellowship programs for areas of study related to the environment and Native American tribal policy and health care;

"(B) since 1999, has provided valuable environmental conflict resolution services and leadership through the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution; and

"(C) is committed to continue making a substantial contribution toward public policy in the future by—

"(i) playing a significant role in developing the next generation of environmental and Native American leaders; and

"(ii) working with current leaders to improve decisionmaking on—

"(I) challenging environmental, energy, and related economic problems; and

"(II) tribal governance and economic issues;

"(6) Stewart L. Udall, as a member of Congress, Secretary of the Interior, environmental lawyer, and author, has provided distinguished national leadership in environmental and Native American policy for more than 50 years;

"(7) as Secretary of the Interior from 1961 to 1969, Stewart L. Udall oversaw the creation of 4 national parks, 6 national monuments, 8 national seashores and lakeshores, 9 recreation areas, 20 historic sites, and 56 wildlife refuges; and

"(8) it is fitting that the leadership and vision of Stewart L. Udall in the areas of environmental and Native American policy be jointly honored with that of Morris K. Udall through the foundation bearing the Udall name."

## SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

Section 4 of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5602) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy";

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking "Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy" and inserting "and Stewart L. Udall"; and

(3) in paragraph (9), by striking "Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy" and inserting "and Stewart L. Udall".

## SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF FOUNDATION.

Section 5 of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5603) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking "SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY" and inserting "AND STEWART L. UDALL";

(2) in subsection (a), by striking "Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy" and inserting "and Stewart L. Udall"; and

(3) in subsection (f)(2), by striking "the rate specified for employees in level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code" and inserting "a rate determined by the Board in accordance with section 5383 of title 5, United States Code".

## SEC. 6. AUTHORITY OF FOUNDATION.

Section 7 of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5605) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(5)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting "and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(E) to conduct training, research, and other activities under section 6(7)."; and

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) UDALL SCHOLARS.—Recipients of scholarships, fellowships, and internships under this Act shall be known as 'Udall Scholars', 'Udall Fellows', and 'Udall Interns', respectively."

## SEC. 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUST FUND.

Section 8 of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5606) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking "SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY" and inserting "AND STEWART L. UDALL"; and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking "Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy" and inserting "and Stewart L. Udall".

## SEC. 8. EXPENDITURES AND AUDIT OF TRUST FUND.

Section 9(a) of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5607(a)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: "including a reasonable amount for official reception and representation expenses, as determined by the Board, not to exceed \$5,000 for a fiscal year".

## SEC. 9. USE OF INSTITUTE BY FEDERAL AGENCY OR OTHER ENTITY.

Section 11 of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5607b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) AGENCY MANAGEMENT OR CONTROL.—Use of the Foundation or Institute to provide independent and impartial assessment, mediation, or other dispute or conflict resolution under this section shall not be considered to be the establishment or use of an advisory committee within the meaning of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)."

## SEC. 10. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

Section 12(a) of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5608(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

"(1)(A) appoint such personnel as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service; and

"(B) fix the compensation of the personnel appointed under subparagraph (A) at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate for employees in grade GS-15 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code, except that up to 4 employees (in addition to the Executive Director under section 5(f)(2)) may be paid at a rate determined by the Board in accordance with section 5383 of that title.";

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking "and" at the end;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

"(7) to rent office space in the District of Columbia or its environs; and".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on Senate 1818 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Senate 1818, which enhances the Morris K. Udall Foundation and honors the life of Stewart L. Udall.